

# ASHTEAD TENNIS PLAYERS CLUB

## Spring Newsletter

March 2010



It was the hardest winter since the last time it was that bad; soon there were potholes everywhere, and with a little help from the gas and water boards,



Woodfield Lane resembled a badly ploughed field.

But our courts are like velvet, with resurfaced 1 & 2, along with the newly scrubbed 3 & 4, emerging unscathed from beneath the glaciers.

Despite major expenditures in 2009, there is a modest increase in subscription rates this year. So grab your pen, cheque book, and racket – and we're off for another season -

### Events diary

Our Christmas Round Robin has always been popular, and this year we celebrate Easter with a similar event – starting at 2.00pm, as daylight is in better supply at this time of year. Tennis and bucks fizz will be flowing again.

Contributing to local events benefits everyone concerned, and we will be much in evidence at two of them:

We will put on another great show for Ashtead Village Day on 12<sup>th</sup> June, and before that there is “Tennis in the Park” on Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> April, which is new to us.

This is arranged by the Ashtead Recreation Campaign, whose aim is to extend the play area for older children to the area south and west of our courts. Last year's event was very well attended, and was supported by MVDC, Ashtead Rotary, the Fire Service and others.

We hope that our presence will encourage interest – and membership enquiries - from families and young adults.

Meanwhile entry forms for the club tournaments and the Wimbledon ballot are enclosed.

*Please try and remember to include a stamped addressed envelope when returning your membership form and other documents.*

### **Committee changes**

At the AGM, Tom Traboulsi did not seek re-election as club chairman, and Andy McGregor has stepped down as gentlemen's team captain.

We are very grateful to Tom and Andy for their achievements – they leave the courts and the teams in excellent shape, and fortunately will both continue as active club members,

To continue the good work, Roger Parker takes over as Chairman, and Martin Seath will captain the gentlemen.

We wish them well in their new roles.

### **Junior tennis**

The programme of Friday evening club sessions, social events, and tournaments continues.

Congratulations and a special mention are due to Sally Hall, who was nominated for a community spirit award for her help with tennis and badminton coaching of our younger children.

This took the form of a mini “Oscars” event – Youth Showcase Awards 2010 – run by Mole Valley Youth Voice on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb at Dorking Halls.

Good for you, Sally!



## **Lease renewal**

Our lease is due for renewal this year.

We have always enjoyed good relations with our landlords, Mole Valley District Council, who complimented us on the condition of the premises, following an inspection.

We are negotiating the rent in the hope and expectation of a successful conclusion, despite the economic environment – much of which seems to be stuck in winter.

## **Wimbledon and British Tennis**

Once again, the LTA has stipulated that the ballot for Wimbledon tickets is open to British Tennis members only.

If you have not already joined, please think about doing so. Membership is free, and brings a variety of benefits – details at

<http://www.lta.org.uk/britishtennismembership/>

## **Cricket club**

The cricket club have suggested that we might like to take advantage of the facilities that they offer, and one in particular - the bar.

The idea could have its merits, and the committee looks forward to a detailed examination of the proposal



Maybe we could offer them a new category of winter membership, that would be open to cricket club members only. This would not conflict with their summer activities, and could boost our adult membership.

### **Summer time**

Clocks go forward on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March, which makes those who play early on Sunday morning even more virtuous than usual.

Saturday afternoon club session moves to its more relaxed 2.00pm start time.

We look forward to seeing you there, or at other events - and throughout the coming season.

